

Dear Appropriations Committee Co-chairs:

Senator Catherine Osten, Senator Paul Formica, and Representative Toni Walker,

For the last 45 years, ACES Educational Center for the Arts (ACES ECA) has been recognized as a national model for arts education. At ACES ECA, impassioned teaching by professional artists recognized in their fields catalyzes a profound love of learning in students. Day by day, we watch our students bloom into confident creative leaders by internalizing ECA's high standards for achievement.

Students in all departments are continually recognized for the seriousness of purpose they bring to their art-making. In the Creative Writing program, on a yearly basis our students are awarded top prizes and scholarships nationally in the most prestigious contests for high school students. Their work is published in national anthologies that showcase the country's most accomplished high school writers.

ACES ECA enjoys a 100% graduation rate. Our students pursue further study at highly competitive colleges and conservatories. Our alumni continually return to ECA to share with students the ways in which the professionalism learned at ECA has contributed to their careers. Graduates of the Creative Writing Department are now thriving as journalists, filmmakers, teachers, legislators, and founders of progressive organizations that contribute to the vibrancy—and humanity—of our culture.

As a public magnet school serving 23 school districts, ACES ECA has been a decades-long success story. We who teach and learn here are grateful to be part of it. We ask our state representatives for their fullest support.

Sincerely yours,

Caroline Rosenstone
Department Chair,
Creative Writing Department
ACES Educational Center for the Arts

Home address: 71 Autumn Street, New Haven.